

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A coin receiving and dispensing device, for holding a coin received from a coin receiving inlet, and for dispensing the coin to a coin dispensing outlet ~~by denominations in accordance with a denomination of the coin, the~~
5 device comprising:

a coin holder, for holding ~~the coin by denominations~~ coins of a same denomination, which holds the coin and which has a width of which is formed that is substantially the same as a diameter of the coin;

10 a coin dispensing belt which is located at a bottom part of the coin holder, ~~and which is driven by drive power for carrying to carry~~ the coin held in the coin holder toward the coin dispensing outlet, said coin dispensing belt comprising an endless belt having a ~~by an outer side~~ coin carrying surface on
15 which the coin is carried at an outer surface thereof, an inner surface which is opposite to the outer surface, and two lateral sides;

a belt guide for guiding the coin dispensing belt along a coin carrying direction by controlling positions of ~~both sides~~
20 ~~and an inner side~~ the two sides and the inner surface of the coin dispensing belt;

a pair of coin contacting ~~face~~ faces which are provided at
~~both sides~~ opposite sides of the ~~belt guide~~ coin dispensing belt
with respect to each other, so as to be capable of supporting the
25 coin, and ~~located~~ which are positioned lower than the coin
carrying surface of the coin dispensing belt; and

an escape space formed on the belt guide, for allowing the
coin carrying surface of the coin carrying belt to be ~~located~~
positioned lower than the coin contacting ~~face~~ faces when a
30 downward bending force is applied to the coin dispensing belt.

2. (Original) The coin receiving and dispensing device
according to claim 1, wherein the escape space is formed in a
concave shape.

3. (Currently Amended) The coin receiving and dispensing
device according to claim 1, wherein a length of the escape space
in the coin carrying direction is ~~at least~~ longer than a ~~length~~
sum of the diameter of the coin ~~+(the~~ and two times a thickness
5 of the coin dispensing belt. ~~x-2).~~

4. (Original) The coin receiving and dispensing device
according to claim 1, wherein the belt guide is located at a
center part of the coin holder.

5. (Currently Amended) The coin receiving and dispensing device according to claim 1, wherein the coin contacting ~~face is~~ faces are flat.

6. (Currently Amended) The coin receiving and dispensing device according to claim 1, wherein the belt guide and the coin contacting ~~face~~ faces are integrally formed.

7. (Currently Amended) The coin receiving and dispensing device according to claim 1, wherein ~~an~~ the inner surface of the carrying belt is ~~formed~~ flat.

8. (Currently Amended) The coin receiving and dispensing device according to claim 1, wherein ~~one~~ a downstream end of the coin dispensing belt ~~at a~~ in the coin carrying direction side is ~~located~~ positioned higher than ~~the other~~ an upstream end of the coin dispensing belt ~~at a coin holder side~~ in the coin carrying
5 direction.

9. (Currently Amended) The coin receiving and dispensing device according to claim 7, wherein ~~an upper part of~~ the coin holder ~~further~~ comprises a sorting hole at an upper part thereof for sorting the coin to be held in the coin holder ~~by~~
5 denominations in accordance with the denomination of the coin.

10. (Currently Amended) The coin receiving and dispensing device according to claim 7, wherein ~~an exit of~~ the coin holder ~~further~~ comprises a separating roller at an exit thereof for separating ~~the coin one by one~~ coins held in the coin holder into
5 individual coins.

11. (Currently Amended) The coin receiving and dispensing device according to claim 1, wherein ~~an upper part of~~ the coin holder ~~further~~ comprises a sorting hole at an upper part thereof for sorting the coin to be held in the coin holder ~~by~~
5 ~~denominations~~ in accordance with the denomination of the coin.

12. (Currently Amended) The coin receiving and dispensing device according to claim 1, wherein ~~an exit of~~ the coin holder ~~further~~ comprises a separating roller at an exit thereof for separating ~~the coin one by one~~ coins held in the coin holder into
5 individual coins.

13. (New) The coin receiving and dispensing device according to claim 1, wherein the width of the coin holder is greater than the diameter of the coin and less than a sum of the diameter of the coin and a thickness of the coin.

14. (New) A coin receiving and dispensing device, for holding a coin received from a coin receiving inlet, and for dispensing the coin to a coin dispensing outlet in accordance with a denomination of the coin, the device comprising:

5 a coin holder, for holding coins of a same denomination, which holds the coin and which has a width that is substantially the same as a diameter of the coin;

10 a coin dispensing belt which is located at a bottom part of the coin holder, and which is driven to carry the coin held in the coin holder toward the coin dispensing outlet, said coin dispensing belt comprising an endless belt having a coin carrying surface on which the coin is carried at an outer surface thereof, an inner surface which is opposite to the outer surface, and two lateral sides;

15 a pair of coin contacting faces which are provided at opposite sides of the coin dispensing belt with respect to each other, so as to be capable of supporting the coin, and which are positioned lower than the coin carrying surface of the coin dispensing belt; and

20 a belt guide, which is provided under the inner surface of the coin dispensing belt and which guides the coin dispensing belt along a coin carrying direction;

wherein the belt guide comprises: (i) at least one shallow portion which prevents the coin carrying surface of the coin

25 dispensing belt from being positioned lower than the coin
contacting faces when a bending force is applied to the coin
carrying surface over the shallow portion, and (ii) at least one
escape space which permits the coin carrying surface of the coin
dispensing belt to be positioned lower than the coin contacting
30 faces, such that the coin contacting faces support the coin on
the coin dispensing belt over the escape space, when a bending
force is applied to the coin carrying surface over the escape
space.

15. (New) The coin receiving and dispensing device
according to claim 14, wherein at each said shallow portion of
the belt guide, a depth from the coin contacting faces to a
surface of the belt guide at the shallow portion is less than a
5 thickness of the coin dispensing belt.

16. (New) The coin receiving and dispensing device
according to claim 15, wherein at each said escape space of the
belt guide, a depth from the coin contacting faces to the surface
of the belt guide at the escape space is greater than the
5 thickness of the coin dispensing belt.

17. (New) The coin receiving and dispensing device
according to claim 14, wherein a length of each said escape space

in the coin carrying direction is longer than a sum of the
diameter of the coin and two times a thickness of the coin
5 dispensing belt.

18. (New) The coin receiving and dispensing device
according to claim 14, wherein the width of the coin holder is
greater than the diameter of the coin and less than a sum of the
diameter of the coin and a thickness of the coin.

19. (New) A coin receiving and dispensing device, for
holding a coin received from a coin receiving inlet, and for
dispensing the coin to a coin dispensing outlet in accordance
with a denomination of the coin, the device comprising:

5 a coin holder, for holding coins of a same denomination,
which holds the coin and which has a width that is substantially
the same as a diameter of the coin;

a coin dispensing belt which is located at a bottom part of
the coin holder, and which is driven to carry the coin held in
10 the coin holder toward the coin dispensing outlet, said coin
dispensing belt comprising an endless belt having a coin carrying
surface on which the coin is carried at an outer surface thereof,
an inner surface which is opposite to the outer surface, and two
lateral sides;

15 a pair of coin contacting faces which are provided at
opposite sides of the coin dispensing belt with respect to each
other, and which are positioned lower than the coin carrying
surface of the coin dispensing belt; and

20 a belt guide which guides the coin dispensing belt along a
coin carrying direction, and which is positioned below the inner
surface of the coin dispensing belt and lower than the coin
contacting faces;

25 wherein the belt guide comprises: (i) at least one shallow
portion positioned such that a depth from the coin contacting
faces to a surface of the belt guide at the shallow portion is
less than a thickness of the coin dispensing belt, and (ii) at
least one escape space positioned such that a depth from the coin
contacting faces to a surface of the belt guide at the escape
space is greater than a thickness of the coin dispensing belt.

20. (New) The coin receiving and dispensing device
according to claim 19, wherein a length of each said escape space
in the coin carrying direction is longer than a sum of the
diameter of the coin and two times a thickness of the coin
5 dispensing belt.